

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 80

Honoring the “Whidbey 24” for their professionalism, bravery, and courage.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 2, 2001

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BOND, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAYTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## RESOLUTION

Honoring the “Whidbey 24” for their professionalism,  
bravery, and courage.

Whereas the Electronic Countermeasures Squadron One (VQ–1) at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station performs an electronic reconnaissance mission for the defense of our Nation;

Whereas on April 1, 2001, a VQ–1 EP–3E Aries II electronic surveillance plane collided with a Chinese fighter jet and made an emergency landing at the Chinese military airfield on Hainan Island;

Whereas the 24 crew members on board the plane (referred to in this resolution as the “Whidbey 24”) displayed exemplary bravery and courage and the highest standards

of professionalism in responding to the collision and during the ensuing 11 days in detention in the People’s Republic of China;

Whereas Navy Lieutenant, Shane J. Osborn, displayed courage and extraordinary skill by safely landing the badly damaged EP-3E; and

Whereas each member of the “Whidbey 24” embodies the selfless dedication it takes to defend our Nation: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) expresses relief at the release and safe re-  
3       turn of the “Whidbey 24” and shares in their fami-  
4       lies’ joy;

5               (2) applauds the selfless devotion to duty of the  
6       “Whidbey 24” who risked their lives to defend our  
7       Nation;

8               (3) praises the “Whidbey 24” for their profes-  
9       sionalism and bravery and expresses the admiration  
10      and gratitude of our Nation; and

11              (4) acknowledges the sacrifices made every day  
12      by the members of our Nation’s Armed Forces as  
13      they defend and preserve our Nation.

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